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SUPREME COURT



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NEWS RELEASE

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## Lewiston Judge and Idaho Children and Families Court Coordinator Selected for Top Judicial Awards

(Boise) – Judge John Stegner, the administrative district judge in Idaho’s Second Judicial District, and Viki Howard, the statewide coordinator for Children and Families in the Courts, have been selected to receive the most prestigious awards for service and professional presented by the state’s judiciary.

### **Stegner Wins Granata Award**

Judge Stegner is the 2012 recipient of The Granata Award that is presented annually to the Idaho trial court judge who best exemplifies the professionalism of the late Idaho District Court Judge George G. Granata, Jr.

Stegner, a University of Idaho Law School graduate, has been a district judge since 1997. He is currently serving for the second time as the administrative district judge in the Second Judicial District and has served on numerous judicial committees and commissions, including the Idaho Criminal Justice Commission. Since 2002, Judge Stegner has presided over the Latah County Drug Court and he frequently serves as a lecturer at the University of Idaho Law School.

“Judge Stegner is committed to the highest levels of professionalism as a judge and he truly exemplifies the qualities that Judge Granata brought to the bench and to the administration of justice. He is indeed a worthy recipient of this important award,” said Idaho Supreme Court Justice Joel Horton, who chaired the award committee.

### **Viki Howard Honored With Kramer Award**

Viki Howard is the recipient of the Kramer Award presented annually to the person who best displays excellence in judicial administration. Ms. Howard has devoted a quarter century to working with families in the courts as a mediator, case manager, educator and administrator.

In nominating her for the award, five Ada County Magistrate Judges wrote, “Ms. Howard has worked tirelessly throughout her career, both outside and within the court system, to enhance the administration of justice for the benefit of children and families in Idaho.”

Ms. Howard was among the first to pioneer the use of mediation, parent education and case coordination services in Ada County child custody cases and all those approaches are now applied statewide.

The Kramer Award is named for the late Idaho District Court Judge Douglas D. Kramer. The Kramer Award has been presented annually since 1986 and the Granata Award since 1999.

The awards were presented to Judge Stegner and Ms. Howard during the annual Idaho Judicial Conference in Boise.

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